GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4833
ANSWERED ON:24.04.2002
INTERNATIONAL PHONE SERVICE THROUGH INTERNET
SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government have introduced international phone service through Internet;

(b) if so, whether it would be just like local calls from April 1, 2002; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SIKDAR)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) & (c): Internet Service Providers (ISPs) can offer Internet Telephony Service after taking permission for the same. This service can be availed by customers of ISP by use of Personal Computer (PC) or Internet Protocol (IP) based Customer Premises Equipment (CPE) connecting the following:

(i) PC to PC within India or outside.

(ii) PC within India to Telephone outside India.

(iii) IP based H.323/Session Initiated Protocol (SIP) terminals connected directly to ISP nodes to similar terminals within India or outside.

As on date, the ISPs are free to fix the tariff for Internet Telephony Service.